Indian Wheat
An
Indian
Lay

Indian Wheat
An
Indian
Lay

Glory be to God on high, Peace on Earth, Good will amongſt me.

A Rare and New

DISCOVERY

OF

A ſpeedy way, and eaſie means, found out by a young Lady in *England*, ſhe having made full proofe thereof in *May*, *Anno* 1652.

For the feeding of Silk-worms in the Woods, on the Mulberry-Tree-leaves in *Virginia*: Who after fourty dayes time preſent there moſt rich golden-coloured ſilken Fleece, to the inſtant wonderfull enriching of all the Planters there, requiring from them neither coſt, labour, or hindrance in any of their other employments whatſoever.

And alſo to the good hopes that the Indians, Seeing and finding that there is neither Art, Skill or Pains in the thing: they will readily ſet upon it, being by the benefit thereof inabled to buy of the Engliſh (in way of Truck for their Silk-bottomes) all thoſe things that they moſt deſire.

So that not only their Civilizing will follow, thereupon, but by the infinite mercie of God, their Converſion to the Chriſtian Faith, the Glory of our Nation, which is the daily humble prayer

OF

VIRGINIA for VIRGINIA.

With two Propoſitions tending to *England*'s and the *Colonies* infinite advantage.

Printed for *Richard Wodenothe* in *Leaden*-hall ſtreet, 1652.

To the Reader.

Ingenuous Reader,

I Have in my Legacie of Husbandry bequeathed something unto thee concerning Silk-worms, which hath wakened many to search after the means to advance that part of Husbandry. But because the Letter of K. *Iames* to the Lords Lieutenants of the severall Shires of *England*, for the increasing of Mulberry-Trees, and the breeding of Silk-worms for the making of Silk in this Nation had not annexed unto them in that Treatise the Instructions tending to that purpose, and being but few, wholly out of print, and very much desired; I thought good upon the occasion of the printing of this Letter to those of *Virginia*, to publish it also for the benefit of those who shall be willing to employ themselves in this way of industry, which seemeth to be brought unto a more perfect and speedy accomplishment then heretofore hath been known either here or in *France*, as by the contents of this adjoyned Letter (wherein the Experiment of a vertuous Lady of this Nation for the breeding of Silk-worms is addressed unto the Planters of *Virginia*) is set forth to encourage both them and others to set upon this work, to benefit themselves and the Nation thereby. And truly the Gentleman who doth addresse this Letter to the Planters of the Virginian Colonie is much to be commended for his affection to the publique, because he doth not conceal (as some Muck-worms do for private ends) the Advantages which may be reaped by singular industrious Attempts or Experiments of profit, but desires the benefit of others, even of all to be encreased. And it were to be wished, that every one to whom God (from whom comes every good and perfect gift) doth impart any rare and profitable Secret of Industry, would open himselfe towards his Brethren, as this Publick-hearted Gentleman doth; then would all hands be set a work, and every one would become instrumentall to serve himselfe and his Neighbours in Love, and overcome the burthen of povertie, which for want of employment and decay of Trade doth lie so heavie upon very many, whose burthens might be either born, or made easie, if all the gifts of God were made use of for the end for which he doth bestow them, namely, to profit withall towards others, as it becommeth the Members of the same Christian, and Humane, and Nationall Society; for the same rule holds in all these respects among such as understand what it is to be a good Commonwealths-man in the State, as well as in the Communion of Saints: And to this good and generous inclination, which I wish may more and more abound in them with the grace of God, I shall leave thee and rest,

Thy most assured and faithfull servant,

Samuel Hartlib.

Inſtructions for the increaſe and planting of Mulberry-trees.

What ground is fit for the Mulberry-ſeeds, *how the ſame is to be ordered, and in what ſort the ſeeds are to be ſowed therein.*

THe ground which ought to be appointed for this purpoſe, beſides the naturall goodneſs of it, muſt be reaſonably well dunged, and withall ſo ſituated, as that the heat of the Sun may cheriſh it, and the nipping blaſts of either the North winde or the Eaſt, may not annoy it: the choice thereof thus made; that the ſeeds may the better proſper, and come up after they be ſown, you ſhall dig it two foot deep, breaking the clods as ſmall as may be, and afterward you ſhall divide the ſame into ſeverall Beds of not above five foot in breadth, ſo that you ſhall not need to indanger the plants by treading upon them, when either you water or weed them.

The Mulberry ſeeds you ſhall lay in water for the ſpace of 22 houres, & after that you ſhall dry them again half dry, or ſomwhat more, that when you ſowe them they may not cleave together: Thus done, you muſt caſt them upon the foreſaid Beds, not altogether ſo thick as you uſe to do other garden Seeds, and then cover them with ſome fine earth (paſt through a Sive) about half an inch thick. In dry weather you ſhall water them every two dayes at the fartheſt, as likewiſe the Plants that ſhall come of them; and keep them as clean from weeds as poſſibly you can.

The time in which you ought to ſowe them for your beſt advantage, is either in *March*, *April*, or *May*, when froſts are either altogether paſt, or at the leaſt not ſo ſharp, or of ſo long continuance; as to indanger their upſpring.

There is yet another way to ſowe them, and that is as followeth: you ſhall (being directed by a ſtrait line) make certain furrows in the Beds above mentioned of ſome foure fingers deep, and about a foot in diſtance the one from the other: After this, you ſhall open the earth with your hands, on either ſide of the aforeſaid furrows, ſome two fingers from the bottom, and where you have ſo opened it, ſhall you ſowe your ſeeds; and then cover them half a finger thick with the earth which before you opened.

When

When the Plants that are ſprung up of the Seeds, are to be remo-ved, and how they are to be planted the firſt time.

IN the moneths of *September*, *October*, *November*, *December*, *March* or *April*, the next yeer after the Seeds are ſowa, you may remove their plants, (or in the moneth of *January*, if it be not in froſty weather) & ſet them in the like Beds as before, & about one foot the one from the other, but firſt you muſt cut off their roots about eight inches in length, & their tops about half a foot above their roots, more or leſſe, according to the ſtrength of the ſaid plants, for the weaker they be the leſſe tops you ſhall leave them. In this ſort you may ſuffer them to remain (weeding and watering them as need ſhall require) till they be grown ſix foot in length above their roots, whereunto when once they have attained, you may cut their tops, and ſuffer them to ſpread, alwayes having a care to take away the many branches or ſuccours, that may any way hinder their growth, untill they be come to their full length of ſix foot, as aforeſaid

When, and how the Plants are to be removed the ſecond time, and in what manner they are to be planted where they ſhall remain.

IN the moneths aforeſaid, (according as your plants are waxen ſtrong,) you may remove them either into the hedges of your fields, or into any other grounds. If in hedges, you muſt ſet them 16 foot the one from the other, if in other ground, intending to make a Wood of them 18 foot at the leaſt. But a moneth before you do remove them, you muſt make the holes (wherein you purpoſe to ſet them) about four foot in breadth, and ſo deep as that their roots may be well covered, and ſome half a foot of looſe earth left under them, having alwayes a ſpecial care ſo to place them, that they may receive the benefit of the Sun, and not to be ſhadowed or over-ſpread by any neighbouring trees.

When, and how the Eggs of the Silk-wormes are to be hatched, and how to order the Wormes that ſhall come of them.

WHen the leaves of Mulbery-trees begin a little to bud forth, take the eggs of your Silk-worms, and lay them in a piece of Say, or ſuch like ſtuff, and in the day time carry them in ſome warm place about you, in a little ſafe box, but in the night either lay them in your bed or between two warm pillows, untill ſuch time as the Wormes begin to come forth: then take a piece of paper of the wideneſs of the ſaid box,

and

and having cut it full of ſmall holes, lay it vvithin the ſame upon the eggs, and upon that again ſome fevv Mulbery-leaves, to vvhich the Wormes as they are hatched, vvill continually come. Theſe leaves vvith the Wormes upon them, you muſt ſtill remove into other boxes, laying freſh leaves as vvel on thoſe that are removed as on the paper vvhere the eggs are; and this is the courſe vvhich muſt be duly kept and obſerved, untill ſuch times as all the Wormes be come forth of their ſhels, ſtill keeping their boxes vvarm, as aforeſaid; but no longer about you, but untill the Wormes begin to come forth, out of vvhich boxes you may ſafely take them, vvhen once they have paſt their ſecond ſickneſſe, and feed them upon ſhelves of tvvo foot in breadth, and 18 inches one above the other.

The ſaid ſhelves are not to be placed in any ground-room, nor yet next unto the tiles, but in ſome middle room of your houſe which openeth upon the North and South, that you may the more conveniently give them either heat or aire, according as the time and ſeaſon ſhall require. Beſides you muſt not make them cloſe unto the Wals, but ſo as you may paſſe about them the better to look unto the Wormes, and keep them from Rats and Mice, which otherwiſe might devoure them. You muſt obſerve the times of their comming forth, and keep every one or two dayes hatching by themſelves, that you may the better underſtand their ſeverall ſickneſſes or ſleepings, which are foure in the time of their feeding. The firſt commonly ſome twelve dayes after they are hatched, and from that time at the end of every eight dayes, according to the weather, and their good or ill uſage, during which time of every ſickneſſe, which laſteth two or three dayes, you muſt feed them but very little, as onely to relieve ſuch of them, as ſhall have paſt their ſickneſſe before the reſt, and thoſe that ſhall not fall into their ſickneſſe ſo ſoon.

The whole time that the Worms do feed, is about nine Weeks, whereof untill they come unto their firſt ſickneſſe, give them young Mulbery-leaves twice every day, but few at a time; from thence untill their ſecond ſickneſſe, twice every day in greater quantity; and ſo from their ſecond to their third ſickneſſe, increaſing the quantity of the leaves, according as you perceive the Wormes to grow in ſtrength, and clear of ſickneſſe: from the third untill their fourth ſickneſſe, you may give them leaves thrice every day, and the fourth being paſt, you may let them have ſo many as they will eat, alwayes having a care that you give them none, but ſuch as are dry, and well aired upon a Table or cloth, before they be laid upon them, and withall gathered ſo neere as may be; at ſuch times as either the Sun or Winde hath cleared them of the dew that falleth upon them.

For

For the feeding of Worms you need obſerve no other order then this, lay the Mulbery-leaves upon them, and every two or three dayes remove them, and make clean their boxes, or ſhelves, unleſſe in times of their ſickneſſe, for then they are not to be touched: the leaves which you take from them when you give them freſh to feed upon, you muſt lay in ſome convenient place, and upon them a few new leaves, to which the Worms that lay hidden in the old, will come, and then you may paſſe them with the ſaid new leaves to the reſt of the Wormes: And now leſt any thing ſhould be omitted, which ſerves to perfect the diſcovery of ſo excellent a benefit, I will adviſe you to be very diligent in keeping clean their Boxes, or ſhelves, as being a ſpeciall means whereby to preſerve them; wherefore when you intend to do it, you ſhal remove them together with the uppermoſt leaves whereon they lie, unto other boxes or ſhelves, for with your hands you may not touch them, till they have throughly undergone their third ſickneſſe, and then may you paſſe them gently with clean hands, without doing them any harm: provided that the party that commeth neer them ſmell not of Garlick, Onions, or the like. The firſt five weeks of their age you muſt be very carefull to keep them warm, and in time of rain or cold weather, to ſet in the room where they remain, a pan with coals burning in it, now and then ſome Juniper, Benjamin, and ſuch like, that yieldeth ſweet ſmels. But afterwards unleſſe in time of extraordinary cold, give them aire, & take heed of keeping them too hot, being alwayes mindefull to ſtore the room with herbs and flowers which are delightfull and pleaſing to the ſmell. As the wormes increaſe in bigneſſe, you ſhall diſperſe them abroad upon more boards, or ſhelves, and not ſuffer them to lie too thick together, and if you finde any of them broken, or of a yellow gliſtering colour inclining to ſickneſſe, caſt them away, leſt they infect the reſt, and ſort ſuch as are not ſick, the greateſt and ſtrongeſt by themſelves, for ſo the leſſer will proſper the better.

When and how to make fit roomes for the wormes to work their bottoms of ſilk in, & in what ſort the ſaid bottoms are to be uſed.

AS ſoon as by the clear amber-coloured bodies of your worms, you ſhall perceive them ready to give their ſilk, you muſt (with heath made very clean, or with the branches of Roſemary, the ſtalkes of Lavender, or ſuch like) make Arches between the foreſaid ſhelves.

Upon the branches and ſprigs whereof, the wormes will faſten themſelves, and make their bottomes, which in fourteen dayes after the worm beginneth to work them, you may take away; and thoſe which you are minded to uſe for the beſt ſilk, you muſt either preſently winde, or kill the

theworms which are within them, by laying the ſaid bottoms two or three dayes in the Sunne, or in ſome Oven after the bread baked therein is taken out, and the fierceneſſe of the heat is alaid. The other bottomes which you intend to keep for ſeed, you muſt lay in ſome convenient warme place, untill the wormes come forth, which is commonly ſome ſixteene or twenty dayes from the beginning of their work: and as they do come forth you muſt put them together upon ſome piece of old Say, Grogeran, the backſide of old Velvet, or the like, made faſt againſt ſome Wall, or hangings in your houſe.

There they will ingender, and the Male having ſpent himſelfe, falleth downe, and in ſhort time after dieth, as alſo doth the Female when ſhe hath laid her egges, Which egges, when you perceive them upon the Say or Grogeran, &c. to be of a grayiſh colour, you may take them off gentlye with a knife, and having put them in a piece of Say or ſuch like, keep them in a covered box amongſt your woollen cloaths, or the like till the year following: But not in any moiſt room, for it is hurtfull for them, neither where there is too much heat, leſt the worms ſhould be hatched before you can have any food for them.

The making of a Wheel, as likevviſe the vvay to vvinde the ſaid ſilk from the bottomes, can hardly be ſet dovvn ſo plainly, as to be rightly underſtood: Wherefore when time ſhall ſerve, there ſhall be ſent into every County of this Kingdome, a Wheel ready made, and a man that ſhall inſtruct all ſuch as are deſirous to learn the uſe thereof: Till vvhen, I vvill commend theſe brief inſtructions to be carefully conſidered of all ſuch as are willing either to benefit themſelves or their Countrey, that being skilfull in the Contemplation, they may the readier, and vvith leſſe errour apply themſelves to Action, vvhich painfull induſtry, vvith Gods aſſiſtance, vvill quickly perfect.

Thus learned Bartas *upon this noble and admirable Creature.*

YEt may I not this *Wondrous Worm* paſſe by,
Of Fly turn'd Worm, and of a *Worm a Fly.*
Two Births, two Deaths, here Nature hath aſſign'd her,
Leaving a *Poſthume*, dead-live Seed behinde her;
Which ſoon transforms the freſh and tender leaves
Of *Thisbes* pale tree, to thoſe tender ſleaves
(On Ovall Clues) of ſoft ſmooth ſilken Flax,
Which more for us then for her ſelf ſhe makes.
O precious fleece! which only did adorne
The ſacred loins of Princes heretoforne:
But our proud age, Wits prodigall abuſe
Hath ſo profan'd the old honorable uſe:
That Shifters now, that ſcarce have bread to eat
Diſdain plain Silk, unleſs it be beſet
With one of thoſe brave Metals, whoſe deſire
Burns greedy ſouls with an impartiall fire.

Had Du Bartas *fully known all the vertues and rarities in this incomparable Creature, even a miracle in Nature, he would have inlarged his Poeme in a more ample manner in the praiſe of it, To the great honour of the Creatour:* Cui Gloria.

From a *Virginia*-Planter in *England*, to the Virgin-Lady *Virginia*.

I.

LEt me (of whoſe ſo many of our Clime
Who ſtand (brave Lady) in much honour bound
For your dear pains conferr'd upon the time,
Who haſt for us Fame, pleaſure, profit found,)
Render thee thanks, that cannot ſpeak thy praiſe,
Wiſhing all condigne honour to thy dayes.

II.

Amongſt theſe Lands, which ſing the memory
Of their deare children (who with pious care
Have them ennobled by th'utility
Of Arts, that long unto them hidden were)
Virginia *boaſts thy name in happy houre,*
Who to her Garland add'ſt ſo rich a flower.

III.

By ſilly Worms, which ever heretofore,
This uſe to keep with us hath been unknown
To draw that great abundant fleece of ſtore,
From them by thy rare new diſcovery ſhown.

Ano-

THe glorious Silkwormes (of all Worms the beſt)
Of greateſt uſe, and the moſt faithfulleſt,
Of Princes worne; By me extols thy worth,
For Blazoning of her, and ſetting forth
Her wonders, both in Nature, and her Works
Ador'd by th' Perſian, *and their neighbouring* Turks:
Vaſt wealth they bring to thoſe with little care,
Yet may with both the Indies *well compare.*
Our lazy Clime, and thoſe that ſail from hence
To bleſſe VIRGINIA; *(and who might long ſince*
Have ſpar'd their pains, in planting of baſe ſmoke,
Fit onely to deſtroy mans health, and choke
The Takers;) and inſtead of being fam'd,
Shall be eſteem'd but baſe, and highly blam'd,
If longer they forbear, and do neglect
To act, what thou (ſweet Cozen) doſt detect:
A Virgin *thou,* VIRGINIA *is thy Name,*
Which ſhall unto VIRGINIA *adde more Fame;*
For thou exalt'ſt her Honour by thy Hand,
And mak'ſt the Silkwormes famous in that Land.

Richard Ferrar,
ex Æde Trinitatis: Junior.

A Compariſon between the gain and labour of TOBACCO *and* SILK.

TObacco requires 9 moneths time, much care and labour both without and within dores, and a mans Crop is commonly 15 hundred weight if Tobacco, and this at two pence a pound is 14 pound gain.

Silk requires ſix weeks time, if done in a houſe, and by the labour of a man and boy, in gathering leaves, and tending the wormes that come of ſix ounces ſeed, there is by ſo many wormes ſpun as much Silk as will weigh ſixty pound weight, and this but at *20 ſhil.* a pound, yields *60 ℔* in ready money.

Tobacco leaves a man but 3 moneths in the year for other buſineſſe.

Silk leaves a man ten moneths time in the year of any other imployments.

14 pounds a man gaines by his Crop of Tobacco.
60 pounds a man and boy gains by his Crop of Silk.

Then let all men judge which is the more gainfull.

But what will be the g·in and profit by the wormes feeding and ſpinning on the Trees is more conſiderable, and alſo the naturall *Virginia*-wormes bottome exceedi ·g ours in *Europe* 20 times in b.gneſſe, and in weight: what a Treaſu:e then will this be, and no labour, coſt, hazard, expence of time at all, a Boy onely to keep away the Birds from eating the Silkworms on the Trees, &c.

The Sea of China and the Indies.

38
39
40
41
Scala Miliarum
10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
A mapp of Virginia discouered to ye Falls, and in it's Latt. From 35. deg: & ½ neer Florida, to 41. deg: bounds of new England.
from the head of Ieames River, ouer those hills
vers which necessarily must run into ye peacefull
and joye of all true English.
Noua
Francia
Lake
Canada flu
falls
NIA, & new.
Massawomeckes C.
Matapanient river
Pataomak
MARY LAND
the Lord Baltimors Plantation
begun 1635.
Swee ds Holla d
Plant at Plant a
Noua Albion
Septen
trio
Teppahanok R.
Payankatank R.
Bohes river
Patuxunt River
Willohies river
Checepiacke 200 miles long
Kentole
Rappahanok Riv.
Tokanok river
Riuers
Ployden hath a Patton of and calls it new Albion
it and haue a great of Furrs.
a plantation and

The Sea of China and the Indies.

38
39
40
41
Scala Miliarum
10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
A mapp of Virginia discouered to ye Falls, and in it's Latt. From 35. deg: & ½ neer Florida, to 41. deg: bounds of new England.
Noua Francia
the head of Ieames River, ouer those hills which necessarily must run into ye peacefull joye of all true English.
Lake
Canada flu
Massawomeckes C.
I A, & new.
Matapanient river
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MARY LAND
the Lord Baltimors Plantation begun 1635.
Swee ds Holla d
Plant at Plant a
Noua Albion
Septen trio
Bohes river
Paturunt River
Checepiacke
200 miles long
Rappahanok Riu
Tokanok river
XUM

An. 1577 in 37. deg. where hee tooke
Possession in the name of Q:
Eliza: Calling it new Albion.
Whose happy shoers, (in ten dayes march with 50 foote and 70 hors men from
and through the rich adiacent Vallyes beautyfied with as proffitable rivers
Indian sea,) may be discovered. to the exceeding benefit of Great Brittain, and
Mangoakes C.
Manikes C.
Ould VIRGIN
Meridies
Carolana
Chawanoke river
Sassafras tree
Nansamo river
Lin haven
Cape Henry
Cape Charl
Smiths Ile
Norke River
The Bay
The Easterne
land Squire Yeart
C. Harturas
MARE ATLAN
John Goddard sculp
John Farrer Esq. Collegit. Are sold by I. Stephenson at ye Sunn be
35
36
37
Oriens

Florida, to 41. deg. bounds of new England.
Noua
Francia
from the head of Ieames River, ouer those hills
vers which necessarily must run into ye peacefull
and joye of all true English.
Lake
Beanas Ile
Canada flu
falls
NIA, & new.
Massawomeckes C.
Matapanient river
Pataomak
MARY LAND
the Lord Baltimors Plantation
begun 1635.
Swee-ds Holla-d
Plant at Plant-a
Noua Albion
Septen
trio
Paynkatank R.
Teppahanok R.
Bohes river
Patuxunt River
Checepiacke 200 miles long
Bay of
Rappahanok Riu
Tokanok river
Matsopunque river
Fets Island
Cingoto Ile
This River the Lord Ployden hath a Patten of and calls a new Albion
but he Sweeds are planted in it and haue a great trade of Furrs.
This River the Duch haue a plantation and
A great trade of Furrs
New England
Lord Delawars Bay and river
Cape Iames
CVM.
Hudsons
Long Island
Cape Codd
n below Ludgate. 1651.
38
39
40
41

A Rare and new diſcovered ſpeedy way, and eaſie meanes of keeping of Silk-wormes, being thus made knowne to the Colony in *VIRGINIA.*

Earken wel, you beloved Planters, to what in theſe few lines I ſhall declare unto you; and is thus ſent you in Print, that all of you may communicate the great and ſuperlative good and benefit it will be unto every one of you: *Whoſo is wiſe, will ponder theſe things*, and give the praiſe and glory to God, the Author of all good Inventions; how Providence having brought this to paſſe for all your exceeding great happineſſe and increaſe of ſtore of wealth, with ſo much eaſe, ſo little la-

bour, no coſt unto you; and in ſo ſhort a time as fourty daies this wealth flowes in upon you.

You now I conceive deſire to know it, and I am as willing to impart it unto you: thus then in brief, in a plain manner, that all may underſtand it.

The way to ſpeedy wealth, was by ſome hundreds of you to remove ſome 60 miles more South by land, and to attempt the diſcovery of the Weſterly Sea, on the border of Virginia, and both two very eaſily atchieved, &c.

The same Lady, who laſt year ſent you her Books of *Health and Wealth*, (who hath the happineſſe to beare the honourable name of your incomparable Countrey) continuing her ſincere affections to the advancing of your welfares in all kindes; and amongſt the reſt in this rich work of Silk, knowing *Virginia* to be in all reſpects moſt proper for it, (as by a late Book ſent you, publiſhed by Mr. *Williams*,) not onely in regard of the Climate being the ſame with *China*, from whence the infinite quantity of ſilk comes, but abounding (as it doth) with Mulberry-trees naturally growing there, and exceeding it by the Silkworm-bottomes found in her Woods. She hath I ſay this Spring found out (by the ſpeciall bleſſing of God upon her intentions) ſo rare, ſo ſpeedy, and ſo coſtleſſe a way and means for the feeding of Silkwormes; by the triall and experiment ſhe ſo luckily made, to the admiration of all that have ſeen or heard of it, as a thing ſcarce credible; becauſe not heretofore thought of, nay, as it were, held impoſſible by ſuch Authours as have written of the ordering and feeding of Silkworms: that this her invention being thus made known unto you her beloved friends in *Virginia*, ſhe is moſt confident, and aſſures herſelf you will all there inſtantly without further delay (which will be the joy of her heart) become great and rich Maſters of this noble Silk-worke to all your unſpeakable wealth.

The Lady hath of theſe Silk bottoms in her Cabiner as Jewels to convince the incredulous, they are ten times beger then any in Europe to admiration, and of infinite incouragement to the work.

Do but as ſhe hath done; follow but with good courage your cheerfull Leader, and doubtleſſe you ſhall finde (what ſhe deſires you may,) namely, *Great profit and pleaſure* in an honeſt imployment. This Silken-Mine will be to you of more benefit then a Mine of ſilver.

In the beginning of *May* laſt 1652, when her young Mul-

Mulbery-tree in her Garden began to put out its buds, then her Silkworm-eggs began to hatch, as the nature of this wise creature is, when her food begins once to appear, she comes forth of her shell: she presently laying a Mulberry-leafe upon these little crawling creatures, they came all upon it instantly; then she carried the leafe and them upon it to the tree, upon whose leaves they made haste to be; and there they day and night fed themselves, creeping from leafe to leafe, and branch to branch at their own liberties most pleasing to themselves, they grew and thrived wonderfully, and surpassed in largeness of body those other wormes she kept in her chamber (she having been many a year a Mistris of Silkworms, and kept them by the Book-rules) this good and prosperous beginning heightened her hopes. The wormes, as their nature is, cast off or slipped out of their skins four severall times, still growing greater and greater to the singular delight and content of their Mistris. About 45 dayes thus feeding upon the leaves, they began that rare and glorious work of spinning their Silk-bottomes upon the leaves and branches of the tree; such a gallant sight to behold, it ravished the Spectators, and their Mistris joy was crowned with excesse of happinesse herein and hereby, apparently finding the incomparable felicity this would prove to her dearly beloved *Virginia*, (for so you must give her leave to call it,) for she concluded, and so must all you, that this being thus effected in *England*, how much more with assured confidence will the wormes live, feed, and spin in *Virginia*? she upon serious and due consideration of this thing, gave God hearty and humble thanks.

Contrary to Book Rules. These eggs were purposely exposed to ayre, cold, winde, and frost, being laid and spawned on a wall in a chamber, and there remained all Winter long to try the vertue of the Eggs, &c. And twice before they come out of their bottoms, six times in all. The seventh they appear when come out a gallant silken white-winged Fly.

No weather it seems hurts them there; from heat and rains they shelter themselves under the great leaves as with a shield but if either do harm them, how easie is a canvas covering, stretched over the trees to save them from either of both.

And what can any of you now wish for more incouragement? the full proof is made, the work (or rather let me call it) the pleasure is effected with so much ease, so little cost, hazard or pains, as all may admire it.

'Tis not the hundreth part of your care, labour, or toyl you take about your Tobacco, and an hundred times (as I

may ſay) all things put together more gain and profit to you then you make by Tobacco, which in truth is but ſmoak and vapour, but this a reall-royall-ſolid-rich-ſtaple commodity.

And yet if you will have ſtill ſmoak, ſo this neither will nor can hinder your labour in that, or take from you any other employment you have a minde unto.

Conſider, conſider I pray you (beloved friends) your incomparable happineſſe in this thing, and bleſſe God for it. Surely I ſhould much wrong your judgements and patience, if I ſhould ſpend any more arguments to perſwade you to this ſo great benefit to you, and ſhould be like to him that to manifeſt the clear Sun-ſhine at noon-day, brought in a candle.

In a word, there's nothing is or can be wanting but your true thankfulneſſe to God for compleating this happy invention, and your preſent ſpeedy putting it in practice.

Yet give me leave, before I bid you adiew, to add the incomparable joy this Lady hath, who is confidently perſwaded (her daily prayers are to God for it) that this new invented way of thus keeping Silkwormes on the Trees; it requiring neither skill nor pains, (this laſt being the onely *Remora*, in the Savages nature, which witholds them from attempting any thing of labour) that when the Indians ſhall behold and ſee you begin the buſineſſe, they will with all alacrity ſet upon it likewiſe, and imitate you. And that you to incourage them (as well you may) do agree with them, that for every pound-weight of Silk-bottomes they bring unto you, you give them (as well it deſerves) 5 *ſhil.* worth in any Commodities they deſire.

And thus by the bleſſing of Almighty God, there may be good hope of their civilizing and converſion, ſo that they may be likewiſe great gainers both in body and ſoul by this thing. And if this prove ſo, (Gods mercies and workes being far beyond our capacities) how much then indeed will *Virginia's* happineſſe be every way raiſed to the height of

of Bliſſe. The promiſe being made, *That they that be wiſe ſhall ſhine as the brightneſſe of the Firmament, and they that turn many to righteouſneſſe, as the ſtars for ever and ever*; which the God of wiſdome and power grant to you all in *Virginia*: and ſo, Lord, proſper this work in their hands, Lord, proſper their handy-work; good luck I wiſh you all in the name of the Lord, *Amen, Amen, Amen.*

Memorandum, that you take notice, that the Birds will eat up the Silkworms on the trees, ſo that care muſt be had (and it's eaſily prevented by ſeverall wayes and means, as you will deviſe) to ſcare away the birds; if all fail, a boy may be ſet that may affright them al away with ſome noiſe, or by nets encompaſſing the trees; and the birds will alſo carry the Silk-bottomes off the trees, if they be ſet there remain; but that's ſoon prevented, by taking them ſpeedily away. And this of the birds is the chief reaſon, that *Virginia* abounds not with plenty of the naturall wilde Silkworms, they devouring moſt of them: and it's a wonder how any at all eſcape them, but that God preſerves ſome few of the race, that his power and wiſdome may be ſeen, and the aptneſſe of the Countrey to invite you to the work.

It will be good for you to incourage the Savages, when they finde any bottoms in the woods, to bring them to you, that you may get of the race, and ſeed to increaſe it. Some ſay, the originall Silkworm is produced by the corruption of the old Mulberry-tree, and leaves by the Sunne and moiſture. But that none of you may want a ſtock to begin your Silk-work, the Lady aforeſaid hath ſent you ſtore of Silkworm-eggs to be diſtributed amongſt you: and if you begin but with an 100 eggs this year, they will next year be above 1000; for one female Silk-fly will lay 3, 4. 500 at a time, all things more and more concurring to your incouragement.

For their Pottom being ten times bigger then ours, what mighty great Worm muſt they be, and what incouragement is this to the buſineſſe, and how much more ſilk they make then ours, &c.

Till you can get and gain the Egg and Seed of your naturall gallant large Silkworm: which is chiefly that you muſt endevour to ſtore your ſelves with, no Eggs comparable to it, &c.

Now the two Propoſitions that tend to infinite welfare, benefit, and wonderfull advantage both to *England* and the

Colony

Colony joyntly, are thoſe that follow, that which upon no terms are to be omitted to be publiſhed and effected.

Firſt, that with all ſpeed ſome kinde of Coyne be ſent to *Virginia*, that may be authorized to paſſe there for their Commerce and better trading But whether all ſilver ſomewhat valued above its worth, or part ſilver & part copper, is left to the wiſe judgments in that caſe. But of this confidently be aſſured, that without ſome kinde of coyn or other, that Colony can no way proſper or thrive, nor any ſtaple commodities be ſet up, or Artificers in any kinde follow their profeſſions: for Tobacco being now their money, and that with which all Commerce is driven, and paiments made in, and paſſeth from man to man; all men are ſet upon that thing with the neglect of all other rich and ſolid innumerable Commodities that are in that land to be had: and till this remedy of Coyne be applied, there can be no proſperity in that Colony. Were not the thing as apparent to all mens underſtandings as light is from darkneſſe; I ſhould alledge many reaſons for it, but it's ſo needleſſe to ſpend time about it, as it might well be thought a great abſurdity. What then remaines? but that ſome publique ſpirited Patriot that would immortalize his name and honour in the procuring of this ſo neceſſary a thing to be ſpeedily effected, wherein alſo as the generall good he ſhall do, ſo the benefit will be ever great to thoſe that ſhall undertake the carrying over this Coyne; be it what it will be, all men know it ſo well what the gain will be, as there's no need to name it in particular manner, they cannot wiſh for more profit then that will be to the undertakers, and the Colony will with all their hearts be content with it, and eſteeme them happy and thrice happy Benefactours.

The ſecond thing is, that a Publication be procured and ſent to the Colony in *Virginia*, declaring unto them, that there ſhall be liberty for all men to bring from thence for the ſpace of ten years to come, any commodity that they ſhall there raiſe, into *England*, Cuſtome and Excize free,

(To-

(Tobacco onely excepted, which may pay double Cuſtome, if ſo thought fit:) and further that to what value of money ſuch commodities ſhall be ſold for here in *England*, (being rated at the Cuſtome-houſe at their entry;) it ſhall be lawfull to carry out to *Virginia* any Commodities again to the ſame proportion and worth, Cuſtome and Excize free.

Theſe two reaſonable things granted; as they ſhall infinitely with all ſpeed advance the Plantation, ſo ſhall they (all things duly weighed in the ſcale of prudence) be no leſſe beneficiall to *England*, as all men that have their eyes in their heads, and Engliſh hearts in their bodies, ſee and apparantly know, nothing more ſure and certain; and all ſtaple and needfull Commodities brought out of all-liberall-*Virginia* into *England* at a very reaſonable rate and price, much cheaper then now we have them, and are fain to fetch them with great hazard from doubtfull friends, or Heathen Nations, to their great enriching and our own impoveriſhing, as to all knowing men is moſt apparent; we ſhall be free from the uſurpation of forreign Princes and States in our Eſtates, Lives, Liberties and ſhipping: and we may conclude boldly and rejoycingly, that Providence hath provided this all-ſufficient Countrey of *Virginia* againſt theſe times, and to theſe intents, that hence we may have all we want from our own brethren, our Navy there increaſed to what number we pleaſe; for this incomparable land affords naturally all whate're belongs to the building and rigging of a Navy in all compleat manner from top to toe, as may be ſaid; and by a ſafe, a ſure, certain, eaſie, near at hand weſterly diſcovery, (part by land, and part by Rivers and Seas) contract all the riches of the South-ſea, the *Molocos*, *Philipines*, *China*, *&c.* by 3000 leagues neerer to us, without moleſtation by any Prince or Pirat, and ſhall not need at all to be troubled, if *Ruſſia*, *Poland*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, *Norway*, *Germany*, yea *France*, *Spain*, *Italy*, *Conſtantinople* were removed 5000 times more diſtant

Sir Francis Drake was An. 1577 in a Weſterly Sea one the back of Virginia, in 37 degrees in oppoſite to the head of James Town in Virginia and he ſailed from that Countrey which he called Nova Albion, in an open Sea to the Moloccos and China, and ſo that alſo this way a trade may be made to thoſe places to the back of Virginia, &c.

diſtant from us: for in one word, what ever theſe Countreys afford, either neceſſary or ſuperfluous, all-ſufficient *Virginia* within its limits will produce unto us. And ſhall there not I ſay then now be found a zealous Patriot, that will ſtand up for his Countrey, and procure theſe things to be done out of hand? Now God forbid; I commit the buſineſſe to God, having done what I conceive my part is, who onely have good wiſhes, and daily prayers to attend this enterprize, which God proſper, *Amen*.

POSTSCRIPT.

At a friends importunity, (the former part ſent to the Preſſe) I am thus enforced to make this Addition, and upon the great hopes that upon triall it will be found, that you may have two Silk-harveſts in one ſix moneths time; of the eggs a ſecond brood may be hatched in *June*, and ſo fed by Mulberry-leaves, though then it may be it muſt be in an houſe, that then for the promoting of ſuch a good deſigne nothing of incouragement may be wanting, nor any obſtructions in the buſineſſe, under pretence of wanting needfull houſing for to feed the wormes in. Thus much I will aſſure you,

That the ſlighteſt and ſimpleſt kinde of houſing or coverture (though the books are too ſuperſtitious and ceremonious in the rules which are many that they give concerning the ordering of the worm, which are not ſo neceſſary as they pretend;) I aſſure you, you will abundantly content and ſatisfie this, though noble, yet moſt humble creature, even with any habitation to do her work in. And to this intent I now declare unto you, (that all excuſe may be taken from you) that the poor ſimple people in *Italy*, *Spain*, *Languedock*, *Provence*, *&c.* do keep and feed their Silkworms in the ſame low earthen-floored Rooms, wherein themſelves lodge and do all their houſhold-affairs, feeding them on ſhelves and on tables, giving them leaves without

out any more curioſity, and they thrive and proſper with them as well as in the greateſt Cities and ſtately chambers of the greateſt rich mens Palaces.

And that in *Sicilie* and *Calabria*, the common Silk-Maſters there do at time of year in the Spring, ſet up onely ſlight boarded houſes in the fields round about the Mulberry-groves, and placing ſhelves in the inſide of them, two foot one above the other to the roof, and a table all along the midſt of the room, they ſtrowing their leaves on theſe ſhelves and table, there feed their wormes, and there they ſpin in the room their Maſter lies for the ſpace of five or ſix weeks time, and they have abundance of ſilk without more ado, and a man and a boy will tend all the worms that come of ſix ounces of eggs, and thoſe wormes will ſpin 60 pound-weight of ſilk, and that but at 20 *ſhil.* the pound, is worth 60*li.* in ready money, a ſufficient gain to allure a man to the work I tro; but the gain by the naturall worme multiplying will farre exceed it. And I may not forget yet more that the Perſian manner is to pitch up onely tents of *Canvas*, and Booths round their Mulberry-woods, and there-under they ſtrow the Mulberry-tree-leaves on the ground: there their wormes feed and live and ſpin, and do well in all kindes, the Perſians living alſo the time of five weeks in the tents. Thus all theſe examples do manifeſtly prove unto you, that very ſimple and ſlight houſing and a little coverture will content the Silk-worms, and they will thrive well in them. And thus you ſee that very poor and ſlight houſes in *Virginia* will do the deed. Nay reſt aſſured that the very Savages houſes built but with Poles Arbor-wiſe, and covered top and ſides with mats, will be abundantly ſatisfactory to the wormes, and they will thrive in them as you ſhall finde upon triall. And let me tell you, being deſirous that you may do all things with the leaſt coſt and labour to you, and to invite alſo the Savages to the work for their own gain; do but take your Reeds and ſmall Canes in *Virginia*, and run but a ſtrong needle

Sicily.

The great gain of the Silkworks in a houſe, how much more in the trees, will it be to you. The ſimpleſt and ſlighteſt houſes or coverture will be ſufficient for the Wormes to feed in, and live and ſpin, let no man doubt it, &c.

and threed thorow the Reeds which will hold them together, and ſo you may preſently make ſhelves and tables with them as narrow and as broad as you pleaſe; and in truth you ſhall finde this kinde of ſhelf and tabling to feed your worms on much better in many reſpects then boards: but you may make triall of the Perſian way alſo by ſtrowing your leaves on the ground in theſe houſes, and ſo feed them, and ſo your ſecond brood of Silkworms may alſo be thus kept and nouriſhed in this kinde of houſing and coverture; Experience is the Miſtris of fools, ſaith the Proverb: and it is not an unwiſe mans part often to make trials, though to ſome men they may ſeem impoſſibilities, yet rare and ſtrange things have upon triall often been found out; and if you would but ſhew the Savages ſamples of all kinde of things, you ſhould ſoon by them know more in a moneth what is in that Countrey to be had then you have done theſe 40 years; and for reward they would bring in of all kindes unto you, what they have and you deſire to know, ſo a ſudden diſcovery may be made of all things in that land to your infinite gain.

Concerning the winding off your Silk, this Lady hath ſent you one of the wheels, ſo that by it all of you may make the like to do that work, ſo you ſhall want nothing to ſpeed the work.

To conclude vvith this *Memento*, that there are nine things that appear, are of no or ſmall difficulty to you and the Savages to enterprize, and get gain and vvealth to be produced from theſe Commodities; I vvill but name them, and leave them to your better judgements and thoughts.

1 This Silke, ſo eaſie, ſpeedy, and profitable a thing.

2 The Silk-graſſe naturally there grovving, vvhich to the Indians the onely labour is of putting it up, and bringing it to you at ſuch a price; a rich Commodity if known.

3 The planting Vines, ſmall labour, little coſt, long enduring.

4 The multiplying of Cunny-vvarrens, ſo eaſie a thing, the vvool of a skin novv vvorth 8 pence, vvhich is more then the body, yet the fleſh is conſiderable meat; the vvooll is and vvill be very vendible for this nevv Invention, not onely of theſe fine light hats novv ſold at 15 and

20

20 *ſhil.* but the ſpinning of the wool, and making ſtockings of it as fine as thoſe of ſilke.

5 The increaſing of abundance of Bees for wax and honey, their food ſo plentifull in *Virginia*, as in no Land more, and if vvith an hatchet you do but ſlaſh your Pine-trees, Firre-trees, Locus, and other trees, there will ſtore of liquor come out of them, on which the Bee will gather infinite ſtore of honey and wax, as in *Ruſſia* and other Countreys they do.

6 The planting of Sugar-canes, that being no more laborious then the Indian wheat, ſetting it, and once ſet in good Land they grow eight or ten years, and the Indians pains will onely be to cut them yearly down, and ſell them to you.

7 That of the Cotton-tree is the like for many years, gathering of the cods of wooll from them, as we do Roſes from the Roſe-buſhes.

8 That of Ginger ſoon done, the planting and the gathering of it.

9 That of grafting your Crab-trees with Apples and Pears for Sider and Perry, you knowing that a man in one day wil graft an 100 ſtocks, and they will grow night and day, while you eat, ſleep, and play, and laſt 100 years to your great gain and profit.

I may not further inlarge my ſelf for the preſent, theſe are but taſtes and hints for your better wits to worke on: ſo with a thouſand good wiſhes, I bid you adiew.

Floreat VIRGINIA.

The faſhion of the Bottome.

The Silke Bottome of the naturall Worm in *Virginia*, found there in the Woods, is ten Inches about, and ſix Inches in length to admiration: & whereas ours in *Europe* have their Sleave and looſe Silke on the outſide; and then in a more cloſer covering they intombe themſelves. Theſe rare Worms, before they incloſe themſelves up, fill with Silke the great emptineſſe, and afterwards incloſe themſelves in the middle of it, ſo they have a double Bottom.

The looſe Sleave Silk is all on the outſide of this compaſſe, for if that were reckoned in, the compaſſe of the Bottom would far exceed this proportion: But this is ſufficient to be the Wonder of the whole World: to the Glory of the Creatour, and Exaltation of *VIRGINIA*.

FINIS.

Gentlemen,

SUch hath bin the ſingular favour of Providence to you and the Lady, that ſince the publiſhing of this Book; it hath ſo happily lighted into the hands of divers worthy perſons, being not onely Gentlemen-Travellers of credit and Merchants of reputation; but likewiſe wonderfully taken with the love of *Virginia*, and no leſs zealouſly affected to the advancement of the *Silk-trade* in that Land, which they judge (out of their experience and knowledge of what they have ſeen and obſerved in the Eaſterly parts of the World, where abundance of Silk is made) that no part of the World is more proper for Silk then Al-ſufficient-*Virginia*: In regard of the excellency of the temper of the Climate, which naturally produceth not onely Mulberries for food, but the Silkworme it ſelf, in that wonderful greatneſs of the wilde Silk-bottom: ſuch as they ſay, The whole Univerſe affords not, nor brings forth the like to their no ſmall admiration. And that there is no greater quantities of them found or ſeen they conclude, it is in regard of the birds who are their natural enemies, and devoure moſt of them. And theſe Gentlemen are confident, that did you know and practiſe thoſe ways & means, for the feeding and preſervation of them, as in ſome far remote Regions is practiſed by thoſe Nations, that are expert Maſters of Silkwormes, *Virginia* would inſtantly abound with great ſtore of Silk, and ſurpaſs all thoſe Countreyes in that rich commodity, & you all become with great ſpeed and ſmall coſt, or little labour one of the happieſt, wealthieſt people that the World affords. And to the intent that ſuch a bleſſing may not be longer wanting to you, they have out of their ſuperlative benigne affections, and publike ſpirits, imparted to the Lady theſe enſuing Relations, with their earneſt deſires and adviſes, that you all in *Virginia* may out of hand be made partakers of them. And then knowing them, you may no longer live in groſs darkneſs and ignorance of ſo great a treaſure that you are poſſeſſors of, and may now have and enjoy the full uſe and benefit of, which hitherunto hath moſt ſtrangely been hidden from the eyes of body and minde; They conceiving that the chief cauſe thereof hath been the pernicious blinding ſmoak of Tobacco, that thus hath dimmed and obſcured your better intellectuals: but when you begin to put theſe wayes & means in practice, they ſay you will bleſſe your ſelves (as they do) that you have not in this long time diſcovered the infinite wealth and happineſs that will ariſe unto you out of Silk. But not longer to detein from you this moſt precious eye-ſalve, for the ſpeedy curing of your infirmity, and making you all rich (which is your main aime in that new World).

Hearken well to theſe Informations, which the Lady earneſtly deſires may thus be with all ſpeed made known to you all.

THe one Traveller declares, That he paſſed a countrey where he ſaw thoſe people had their *Silkworms* feeding on their Mulberry-trees in the fields, and there they lived and ſpun their Bottoms on the trees. And to protect this noble profitable creature, and to defend it from the birds, they uſed a moſt light, ſimple, plain invention ſpeedily effected, and of no coſt or labour to them, which was certain great ſheets of Reeds or Canes, that they hung over and about their trees, tied to certain poles that incompaſſed them. And in this eaſie manner they obteined great abundant quantities of ſilk, to their wonderful inriching. The ſheets of Reeds were joyned together by a needle & thred, running through each Reed at ſeveral equal diſtances, and ſo drew them cloſe and firm together. This for you to imitate, is in every reſpect to your wonderful happineſs.

Another of theſe Travellers ſaith, That he paſſed a Countrey where the inhabitants did make large Tents or Boothes all of Reeds and Canes, and in them placed ſhelves and tables, made likewiſe of Reeds, on which they fed their Wormes, ſtrewing leaves on them. Theſe tents they ſet up round about their Mulberry-Groves, and with much celerity, and no coſt.

A third Gentleman and Merchant, that lived long in the fartheſt parts of *Turky*, affirmeth, That there the inhabitants begin every Spring in *March*, to feed their Wormes, and continue it till *October* ſix moneths time; their Wormes hatching and re-hatching, one generation or brood ſucceeding the other: ſo that they have three harveſts of ſilk-bottoms in that ſpace of time, every five or ſix weeks one: they feed their Wormes in great long Barns made of Reeds or Canes, the walls and roofs of them, and ſhelves as aforeſaid, and the Wormes when they have done feeding, ſpin their bottoms upon the reedy walls and roofs; and that they have two crops of leaves from their trees: for thoſe trees that have their leaves pull'd off in *March*, *April*, and *May*, do releave again, and have new and freſh leaves in *June*, *July* and *Auguſt*, wherewith they feed their latter generation or brood of Wormes very profitably.

And in confirmation of this, you ſhall know, the ſame hath been found true in *England*, that the Mulberry-tree will leave twice in a Summer, the Lady had the experience of it, and therefore much more will it do with you, which will be a moſt ſiugular advantage to you.

I muſt

I muſt not omit to add what theſe Gentlemen farther adviſe, that you can never ſufficiently augment the ſtore of food for this Noble Creature, for ſtore of food is the main foundation, upon whoſe ſpeeding the Silk-trade is to be erected: for if that be not wanting, no obſtruction can be in it. For the glorious Worme is ſo infinite in multiplication, with that celerity as is incredible, ſo that ſhe will never be defective unto you: they therefore counſell, that you graft your Mulberries with all care and ſpeed upon theſe ſeverall trees, upon which they will exceedingly thrive, *viz.* the *Popler*, the *Elme*, the *Cheſnut*, *Beech*, *Quince*, *Medler*, *Fig*, *Peare*, *Apple*, and *Cornell-trees*. And alſo upon any other trees, of which upon a trial you find the Worm wil taſte or eat their leaves. Likewiſe that you ſet of your Mulberry-ſlips as big as your thumb, about two foot long: and put them into good wel-digg'd ground in *September*, ſetting them a foot in the ground, bruiſing the ends of them, and watering them the next Summer well if need be: in the ſame manner as in *Kent*, they ſet the Codling-ſlips. That you alſo cauſe the *Indians* to bring unto your habitations all the young Mulberry-trees that are within an hundred miles of your Colony. But let me acquaint you that they admire what ſome Gentlemen Planters of credit tell them; that your brave Wormes do not onely live, feed, and ſpin upon the Mulberry-trees in the Woods, but do the ſame upon the *Poplar*-trees, *Plum*-trees, and *Apple*-trees: ſuch an incouragement to the *Silk-trade*, the World (ſay they) never yet heard of before, which muſt needs lift you up to a moſt ſpeedy and incomparable height of wealth and riches, in a moment of time.

And by your gentle patience and generoſity, give me leave to propound unto you, the earneſt requeſt the Lady hath to all of you; that you pleaſe to inform her (being alſo the deſire of many others) how it comes to paſs that your Wormes get to your ſeverall trees, not only to the *Mulberry*, but to others: For in no other Countreys the *Silk-worme* flie doth uſe her wings to flie with: ſo that yours muſt either do it (and ſo at time of yeer couple and flie to ſundry trees; and there lay their eggs which remain till Spring again) or that your trees do naturally ingender and produce the Wormes (as it is conceived, the original of them ſo hapned at firſt) but which way ſoever it be, it's rare and remarkable; and proves *Virginia* to be one of the moſt ſuperlative Countreys in all the Univerſe for the *Silk-trade*; and none comparable unto the excellency of its natural temper for *Silk*.

Then that you alſo inform her all you can of the nature, actions, qualities & diſpoſitions in all kindes of this moſt wonderful Creature, every way ſo admirable, what by any *Engliſh* or *Savage* hath bin any way obſerved in her, when her eggs firſt hatch, then how long time ſhe is feeding before ſhe ſpins, upon

what part of the trees ſhe faſtens her Bottom ? How long ſhe continues in her Bottom before ſhe comes out a Fly , then when they couple, where they lay their eggs , upon what part of the trees ? How long they live after that time ? For theſe in the old World never eat after they once begin to ſpin : how large in bigneſs and compaſs are commonly their bottoms ? if all of one colour, or divers ? In what part of the Countrey are moſt of them ſeen and found ? what do the *Savages* call them , or know any uſe of them ? what birds are they that moſt devoure them? (for did they not, they would ſwarm all the Land over in a very few yeers) if any thing beſides birds be hurtful to them ? Their greatneſs and doubleneſs of their Bottoms are wonderful,none ever known to be ſo, which argues the ſtrength and richneſs of this noble Worm,her vigour and hardnes exceeds,that can endure all weathers and ſeaſons both alive and in her eggs.A great incouragement to you all that ſhe is not a nice curious kinde of *Silkworme* ; but ſtout and robuſtuous, that will require little care or attendance of ſmall coſt unto you. But her food and protection is all ſhe requires,aud pays you ten thouſand-fold for what you beſtow on her. That you pleaſe to ſend of her Bottoms to ſatisfie all men, who are like the Queen of *Sheba* , much better truſt their eyes then eares ; ſome of their eggs likewiſe upon that which they lay them , and the Fly (though dead) which will many a yeer retain her perfect form in a box; do not the Wormes hatch and ſpin twice or thrice in a Summer ?

Let me add one Petition more, and I have done. *viz.* That ſome of your precious Silk-graſs may be ſent the Lady, who is confident upon the triall ſhe will make of it, ſhe will give you ſo pleaſing an account and ſo profitable unto you, in making known unto you what an unknown wealth you have : ſhe prays you (and all is for your own gain) to bore and cut all your trees(a moſt eaſie thing) and thereby you ſhall diſcover preſently, what rich Gums, what Balſoms, what Oils, and precious healthful Liquours they will yield you for profit and neceſſity: For all men know that many kinde of trees do yield moſt pleaſant and healthſome Wines (as I may call them) for man to drink; ſo alſo you will finde out all ſorts of Dies and Colours (inſtantly done) cut and bruiſe all kindes of your Woods,Barks and Leaves of Trees, Roots, Berries, Nuts, Fruits, Plants,Weeds; & but boil them in a Skillet,& then put in a little piece of white Woollen or Linnen cloth with ſome Allom, and you ſhall inſtantly finde and ſee what rich Colours they will make. What is *Indico* but a Weed, ſo *Woad* and *Madder* ? What is *Braſil*, *Fuſtick*, *Logwood* , and many more kinde of Dies, but Woods ? what Coucheneal ,the rich Scarlet die, but a Fly, or the excrements of the *Indian* Fig-tree ? what is the new-found rich dying ſtuff of 25 *tb* a Tun , but of a tree that is brought from the Iſlands of *Liber-*

Liberty, neer Cape *Florida* where Captain *Sailes* plants? And ſhall *Virginia* not yield a drop of good Liquour or Colour? It cannot be; if but a triall thus eaſie were made.

By burning of all kinde of Woods and Gums, you'le ſoon finde by your noſe what ſweet Perfumes they yield. And by the ponderouſneſs or weight of earths, you may know if Minerals or not? Let it be known alſo, if you have not Waters of more than ordinary qualities; for taſte, colours, ſmell, weight, hotneſs, or coldneſs? there is much depends upon them. And you ſhall know if they proceed out of any Minerals by taking a glaſs full, and putting into it a Gall beaten to powder, which will turn the water into a reddiſh colour, and ſend ſamples of all kinde of ſtrange earths, and of all other kinde of things without fail. And laſtly, (if it be not too much preſumption to beg the favour to receive that honour from you) which ſhe no wayes deſerves nor can hope to requite: To inform her what be the things, the wayes, the means to advance *Virginia's Proſperity*, if they may be procured and effected. If any errour be committed in telling you all this: there is hope your pardon may be obtained, ſeeing your onely good and benefit hath cauſed all this that hath been ſaid: and the zeal of your wealth and happineſs hath drawn all to this length.

Sirs, you have the faithful teſtimonies of thoſe aforeſaid worthy Gentlemen, and nothing can be now wanting unto you but putting all in practice, what they have declared, and for your good are ſuch invitations and incouragements unto you, that more cannot be wiſhed for. There remains nothing but humble thanks to God, and to theſe Gentlemen your due reſpects, whom God hath made ſuch Inſtruments for your happineſs, hoping their noble courteons examples will allure all other Gentlemen-Travellers to caſt into this good work ſome mites of their further knowledges, and every man to contribute his prayers and help to this or any other hopeful deſigne: ſeeing the conſequence of them may be ſo good and great, not only to the *Engliſh* Nation at home and abroad; but to the poor *Savages* their welfare of ſouls and bodies, which God grant.

Cui Gloria.

To my Precious Couzen,

Upon her Experiment to promote the Silken Trade in the Colonie of Virginia.

MISTRESSE VIRGINEA FERRAR.

Anagram.

MINERVAS RARER GIFTES RISE.

Acroſticks.

M *inerva* erſt (Virgin) the Old world knew,
I nventreſſe of Drapery and Spinners Art;
S uch gifts by thee are raiſed in the New;
T hy ſelfe *Minerva* too by juſt deſert.
R eveal, un-cloud thy fair Names darker ſhade,
E nſhrined there more clearly will break forth
S yllabled *Minerva*, that skilfull Maid,
S hewing, then from *Joves* brain, a braver birth:
E nricht with plenty of the ſilken ſtore,

V ertuous Nymph, thy fair *Virginia*,
I n wealth ſcorning *Pactolus* golden Oare,
R eſounds thy Name, Her Lib'rall *Minerva*.
G ain to the world thy Downy Reptill brings.
I t Lectures to thy ſex in ſilent Laws.
N o clam'rous Bee, that works with murmurings,
E quals her toil. How quietly ſhe draws
A *rachnes* finer twiſt: Lo here a Text

F ond women, for your hands, not for your tongues
E xpounding! which have Scripture ſtrangely vext,
R uining Kingdoms with your vocall Lungs.
R enowned *Solomons* Good woman we
A midſt her buſie Damoſels, like thee,
R are Maid, a Spinſter, not a Preacher ſee.

Virginea

Virginea Ferrar.

Ana-
1 *Verj faire Garner.*
2 *I ever ralgn farr.*
3 *In a rarer figure.*
4 *Rare fair Virgin.*
-grams.

Virginia Ferrar.

Theſe Lines I give an Evidence to prove
Not of your worth (Couſin) but of my love.
May they finde favour then in your fair ſight,
Or elſe in flames an everlaſting night.

F. C.

Vpon the Silk Reel.

Then ſhall the ſilken Reel merrily ſpin,
When to *Jehovah* we thus daily ſing.
All Laud and Praiſe to God the Lord on high,
That gives ſuch wealth ſo undeſervedly.
O pardon Jeſu, pardon our old ſins;
So by thy grace we will become new things.

V. F.

To the Virginian Gentlemen Planters.

Sirs, what's to your Eyes and Eares preſented,
Is for your Honour and Wealth intended.
If now a Virgins counſell you will take,
Great Treaſure of it you ſhall ſurely make.
And if more South a little you will go,
Infinite Riches ſhall upon you flow.
Adde to't a Weſterly Diſcovery,
Then happy are you made eternally.

V. F.